

S. J. HATHAWAY, GUARDIAN OF SUSAN, WALTER, AND
FRANK PHEMESTER.

JUNE 4, 1880.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. EWING, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 6392.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of S. J. Hathaway, guardian of Susan Phemester, widow of John Phemester, late a private in Company I, Ninth Regiment Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, also guardian of their children, Walter and Frank Phemester, praying for a pension for them, having had the same under consideration, respectfully report:

That John Phemester enlisted September 10, 1861, in the above-named company and regiment, and served until March 29, 1865, when he was discharged at Fort Leavenworth, Kans., by reason of expiration of term of service. After his discharge, but while still with the Army, which was engaged in punishing and driving off hostile Indians, he was killed by the Indians on June 12, 1865. Soon after his death his wife began to show signs of insanity, and finally became insane, and is now an inmate of the Hospital for the Insane at Athens, Ohio, as is shown by official certificates from the proper officers. S. J. Hathaway was appointed her guardian, and became also the guardian of the children. By reason of the said John Phemester having been killed after his discharge from the service the claim for pension could not be admitted by the department, and can only be allowed by special act of Congress.

In view of the fact that the mother is insane and the children wholly dependent upon charity, your committee feel justified in reporting favorably and in recommending the passage of the bill which is reported back with this petition.